

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Specification page 9, lines 2-8 and 12-19, and FIGS. 5A and 5B have been amended to remove inadvertent and minor typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 are pending in the present application before this amendment. By the present amendment, Claims 1-6 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-3, 6, and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,760,109 (Kogo). The "et al." suffix, which may appear after a reference name, is omitted in this paper.

As to the independent Claim 1, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assertions in the Office Action that Kogo anticipates the presently claimed invention. Kogo is about a "time division multiplex transmission system" having a transmitter 16 and a receiver 20 across a transmission line 18 as shown in FIG. 1 of Kogo. The Kogo's transmitter 16 is described in FIG. 2A and the receiver 20 is shown in FIG. 2B.

As shown in FIG. 2A and FIG. 3, Kogo shows how to transmit signals based on the time division multiplex technique as this is well illustrated in FIG. 4 of Kogo. In FIG. 4 of Kogo, the signals P1 and P2 time division multiplexed with a τ delay.

The transmitted time division multiplexed signal is then assembled or decoded by the receiver 20 as shown in FIG. 2B and well illustrated in FIG. 5, in which the time division multiplexed signal P2 is decoded in the CHANNEL A after a 3τ delay and the time division multiplexed signal P1 is decoded in the CHANNEL B also after a 3τ delay.

Thus the "**generated**" clock pulse and input pulse (as in elements 10, 12, 14, and 42 of FIG. 2A of Kogo) in conjunction with the delay circuits 62, 64, and 66 are utilized for time division multiplexing, and the delay circuits 82, 84, and 86 of FIG. 2B of Kogo are utilized to decode the time multiplexed signals.

These conventional features of Kogo relating to time division multiplexing transmission and reception does **not** at all relate to the presently claimed invention.

First, Kogo fails to teach or disclose the claimed input signal conversion unit.

As claimed, the plurality of input signals (such as INPUT0 to INPUT3 in FIG. 3) are converted into a plurality of pulse signals (such as PULSE0 to PULSE3 in FIG. 3).

No such conversion takes place in Kogo. The Office Action cites the diodes 80 in Kogo, FIG. 2B, but the diodes 80 by design prevents reverse flow of electric currents and does not convert a signal into pulses (also see Kogo, col. 4, lines 13-16).

Second, Kogo fails to teach or disclose the claimed delay unit.

As claimed, the delay unit (such as 330, 331, 332 in FIGS. 3 and 5A-5B) detects whether the plurality of pulse signals (such as PULSE0 to PULSE3 in FIG. 3) have reached a predetermined threshold level (which can be high or low as shown by FIGS. 5A-5B) and outputs the claimed delayed pulse signal (such as "DELAY OUTPUT" shown in FIGS. 3 and 5A-5B).

Nowhere in Kogo shows this claimed delay unit. Kogo 2A and 3B teaches a plurality of delay circuits for encoding and decoding signals according to the conventional time division multiplex system. However, this is substantially different from the claimed delay unit.

Third, Kogo fails to teach or disclose the claimed switch and output control unit.

As claimed , the switch and output control unit (such as 340 and/or 360 in FIG. 3) receives the plurality of pulse signals (such as PULSE0 to PULSE3 in FIG. 3) and the delayed pulse signal (such as DELAY OUTPUT in FIG. 3) and outputs a plurality of delayed output signals (such as OUTPUT0 TO OUTPUT3) that are substantially same in the signal form as the plurality of input signals (such as INPUT0 to INPUT3 in FIG. 3).

Nowhere in Kogo shows this claimed structure. Kogo instead generates either a encoded signal for transmission (as in FIG. 2A) that is completely different from the signal inputted to the transmitter 16 (as in FIG. 1) or a decoded signal (as in FIG. 2B) that is completely different from the signal inputted to the receiver 20 (as in FIG. 1).

This difference is very obvious because Kogo is about the time division multiplex system and **not at all** about the shared delay circuit such as that claimed in the present application.

Accordingly, **no** limitation recited in Claim 1 taught (or remotely suggested) by Kogo.

Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,919,683 (Itamura).

Applicant respectfully asserts the above remarks and submit that Itamura--for the same reasons asserted above with respect to Kogo--also does not teach (or suggest) the claimed limitations of Claim 1 and/or Claims 10-11.

Claims 4-5 and 7-9 are indicated as allowable if they are rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-11, pending in this application, either has been allowed or are in condition for allowance.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance in the next action. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. William Park', written over a horizontal line.

Dated: February 25, 2005

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APPENDIX OF ATTACHMENTS

Application Serial No. 10/673,014
Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2004

**Replacement Sheet of FIGS. 5A and 5B
(a total of ONE sheet of drawing)**

and

**Annotated Sheets Showing Changes of FIGS. 5A and 5B
(a total of ONE sheet of drawing)**

Amendments To The Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 5A and 5B. These sheets contain corrections shown in red for the Examiner's approval and are requested to replace the original sheets of FIGS. 5A and 5B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet of FIGS. 5A and 5B

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes of FIGS. 5A and 5B

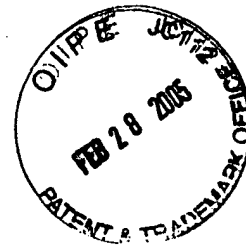


FIG.5A

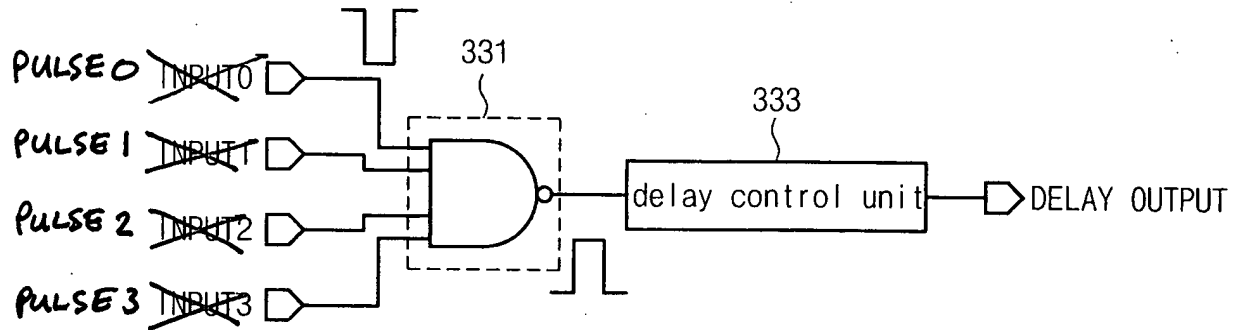


FIG.5B

